

Palmer
8/13/78

Conte Aguero

Luis Conte Aguero - Six Volumes - DDO

Volume I - 201-278130

SECRET

Deletions - Sealed envelopes.

① St. Dept - 22 June 1949 # 486 - 837.008/6-2249

② FBI # 105-1598 (Miami) Sept 1960

③ State Dept - 4 April 1960 Subject: Conte Aguero.

Secret - Eyes Only.

④ State Cable # 2708 7 Apr 1960

⑤ FBI 14 Apr 1960 # 105-86025 (Wash. D.C.)

⑥ FBI excerpts - 13 documents

⑦ FBI - 9 June 1960 # 105-40527 (New York)

⑧ FBI - 15 Aug 1960 - Subject: Alianza De Liberacion

⑨ FBI - 19 Sept 1960 # 105-1598 (Miami) & 14 Sept 1960,
105-40527 (N.Y.)

⑩ FBI - 20 Dec 1960 # 105-86025 (Wash. D.C.)

⑪ FBI - 1 July 1960 - Subject: Luis Ernesto Conte Aguero (N.Y.)

①. Personality File Request.

Luis Conte Aguero - 201-278130 - Radio Commentator.

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② Domestic Asset Report - no date.

Affiliation: Consejo Revolucionario Cubano.

Subject: Aguero - brash, uncontrollable, rable-rousing
radio announcer & leader of FAC (Frente Anti-Comunista

③ Cristiano.

24 hrs. pay Aguero \$3,000 monthly for his
radio program. Heads propaganda branch of
Dr. Miras CRC. Future plans are to have him

10145-10304

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replaced by a propaganda man with his feet on the ground. He is irresponsible. Man is a liability.

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- ② Undated memo to Pierre Salinger, Presidential Press Secretary from: Richard Helms

FBI, CIA has an operational interest in Dr. Aguero, who is considered one of the outstanding personalities among Cuban exiles. He is a forceful & effective speaker - - -

- ③ Undated, rough draft memo prepared by Vidal. Writer met with Dr. Aguero on 15 April 1960 at the request of David Phillips, Chief of the Propaganda Section, JMARC project. Phillips desirous of establishing contact with Aguero immediately because of his possible value to JMARC in the propaganda field.

Prior to meeting, Vidal checked Aguero's branch file for derogatory reports (FBI & summarized FBI # 105-86025 alleging Aguero is not a bona fide refugee but in fact a Castro agent. Additionally, William Pawley submitted a memo of telephone conversation on 7 Apr. 1960 between William Pawley of Miami & L.D. Mallory of ARA (sic) indicating Pawley feels Aguero may be a counterespionage for Castro.

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Conte Aguero

④ Nov. 14, 1962

Dispatch to Task Force W. from COS/JMWAVE

Subject: Operational / Gyrosc / Amstrut

Info. given to Amstrut 1 by Aguero
Aguero says about 1 Oct he met with
Pierie Selinger & later in meeting Pres. Kennedy
entered room & talked to them & told Aguero
he should be confident that U.S. was doing
something on the Cuban matter. Also said
he had a meeting with Edwin Martin of
the State Dept. Martin was mainly interested
in learning what would happen in Cuba
if Castro were killed. Aguero reported to
Amstrut 1 he had received word from inside
that an attempt was made on Castro's life
and as a result, 70 persons were arrested.

⑤ Copy of Cable - Gerald Droller 12 May 1960 - Miami.

Please pass following from Bender via
Amclatter to Amwail. "Further check on
Conte Aguero shows he OK."

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⑥ 18 May 1960

Memo to Chief, Security Support Division

Attn: Mr. Joseph Vidal, CI/Staff

From: Interrogation Research Division

Subject: (Blank) IRD # 40176 (presumably Aguero)

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Conte Agüero

Identifying Info: Subject is 35 y/o old, married Cuban national presently residing NYC. Prior to arrival in U.S. was professionally occupied as a writer & radio commentator. Was contacted & debriefed by Joseph Vidal & being considered as a possible PP asset.

Polysgraph arranged on 12 May 1960, Test designed to determine Subject's attitude toward Communism & if he is clandestinely connected with Castro govt. Subject's responses to test questions do not indicate deliberate attempts at deception.

② 2 June 1960

Memo for: Alien Affairs Staff O/S

From: Martha Sharpe

Subject: Luis Conte Agüero - Request for Transfer of Parole Statute from N.Y. to Miami

Agüero needed in Miami about 15 June 1960 in connection with SMARC project. Plan to use him about 2 mos. & then send him to a LA country for service in SMARC activities.

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③ Message 16 Sept 1960 From: M. Taylor to: JMASTH

In 15 Sept discussion Hqs with Agüero & Boneque, former indicated he an Alianza Cohorte fully informed mission, timing, purpose proposed Nino Diaz op & stated categorically Nino will be

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⑤

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Conte Aguero

fighting for Alianza. In view of obvious
& political implications feel we must ~~give~~ have
Diaz guarantee he will not go in representing
Alianza.

H

② Volume II - Aguero

Deletions - sealed envelopes

① FBI, 2/2/61 - New York

② " 2/15/61 - Miami

③ State 5/26/61 - Memo of Conversation

Subj: Views of well-known Cuban exile

④ FBI - 9/5/61 - Wash, DC Anti Fidel Castro Activities

① Request for Approval or Investigative Action

6 April 1961

Subject: Luis Ernesto Conte Aguero

Request Provisional Operational Approval for use
in South America & Caribbean area -

② 22 June 1961

Memo for Chief /WH/4 from David A. Phillips

Subject: Luis Conte Aguero

Because of uncertainty of Radio Swan, Phillips
requests use of Conte for broadcasts over station
WGBS at a salary of \$600 per month. Conte
is not a member of CRE but gets along
with them.

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③ Volume III.

Deletions - sealed envelopes

① FBI 10/13/61 Revolutionary Council (N.Y.)

② FBI 7/10/62 - #105-3196 (Miami) Christian

Anti-Communist Front

① 3 Nov 1961.

Memo for Record - E. J. Harrison

Subject: Skowitz contact with Conte Aguero

Skowitz tries to persuade Conte to join CRC as propaganda chief.

② Dispatch 12 Feb. 1962 To: COS/SMWAVE from: Chief, WHH

Conte selected to produce & voice a 30 minute, daily program over station WRU - cost of operation is \$11,000 monthly. Agreement made in Sept 1961.

Some months later, Conte joined CRC as propaganda Director but neither he or E. J. Harrison are pleased with arrangement.

(Note: resignation accepted 15 Feb.)

③

③ 14 June 1962

Dispatch to Chief: Task Force W from COS/Miami

Radio Americas

SM.HOPE Program director, William S. Wilbald

to send in monthly reports on Conte's broadcasts.

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Volume IV

Deletions - sealed envelopes

① FBI 26 Feb. 1963 #105-116790

Subj: Sergio Martin Vidal

② FBI 28 Oct. 1963 Miami Subj: Festivals of Liberty

③ FBI 19 Dec 1963 - (Kansas City) Subj: Mario L. Brito, aka Pedro Fuentes, El Inglesiot - Information concerning

① 15 Feb. 1963 Dispatch to Chief, Special Affairs Staff from COS/JMWAVE

Subj: Progress Report for Jan 1963.

Indicates CIA funded publication of Conte book "Identity" & unknown to CIA, Conte had back cover changed to carry picture of Conte & Pres. Kennedy together.

② 18 April 1963 Cable IN 20433

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DIR CITE WAVE 7266

Conte reads letter to Pres. Kennedy at a Cuban Lions Club mtg on 14 April. Letter calls for Invasion of Cuba by U.S., Cubans in exile & Latin American armies. Questions credibility U.S. assurances communism will not be permitted to arise in other LA countries.

Conte seems to be taking stronger Anti-U.S. stand. (Pencilled note: John - Per our discussion: We are watching this closely. If Conte pulls too far away, we must take action.)

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Conte Aguero

- ③ 15 Aug. 1963 To JMWAVE from Director. CITE DIR 62418
CIA's only interest in Conte is receiving good
one-hour program daily in return monthly payment
\$3,000 made via WRUL.

- ④ 24 Oct. 1963 IN 46330

To: Director from JMWAVE

Conte advised a (FNU) Knowland & Ruiz Williams
set up appointment with R.F. Kennedy. Conte
to appeal for funds for "Action" by Conte
"Sentinels of Liberty" (Note: Sentinels are individuals
in Cuba who listen to Conte's program & mail
him information on activities in Cuba - all
of which is passed to CIA for interpretation.)

- ⑤ 29 Oct. 1963 To JMWAVE from Director. # 7890.6

R.F.K. Office & Crammins briefed by Adptra
on purpose of Conte's visit. In both cases,
Conte given a polite hearing but told to
discuss his plans with CIA handlers. Went to
impress on him his end runs in Wash. D.C.
will not succeed in changing U.S. policy being
executed by CIA.

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- ⑥ 25 Nov. 1963. IN 6770

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Conte left for Wash. D.C. on 24 Nov - unauthorized
trip. He was upset that his tribute to
Pres. Kennedy was not broadcast. Info. received

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Conte Aguero

from AMCOUP-1 that Conte had strongly ~~today~~ criticized President's IAPA address of 18 Nov. & cut Conte off the air to insure no embarrassing statement made during Presidential mourning. Further check by Wabaldia disclosed between 18 & 22 Nov., Conte had supported small exile group publicizing theme President not implementing liberation promise.

- ⑦ 11 Dec. 1963 Dispatch to Chief: Special Affairs Staff. from COS/WAVE indicates Conte preoccupied with enlargement of "Sentinels of Liberty" and was away from Florida for extended periods in November (N.Y. & Wash. D.C.)

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Vol. II

Third agency deletions - sealed envelopes

- ① FBI 7 Apr 1965 #105-8145 (Miami)
Sentinels of Liberty
- ② FBI 24 June 1965 Chicago - Plot to
Assassinate Premier Fidel Castro during
October Holidays 1965
- ③ Dept Justice - 1 Nov 1965 Re: Sentinels of Liberty
- ④ " " - 23 Feb 1966 - Sentinels of Liberty
- ⑤ FBI - 24 Jan 1967. (Wabaldia D.C.) Luis Conte Aguero

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Conte Aguero

① 2 Sept 1965

Memo for Chief / WH

Subject: Meeting with Luis Conte Aguero.

2 Sept 1965. ~~Case Officer: Stephen J.~~

~~Chronicle~~

Indicates Conte continuing to receive \$3000 monthly for radio program.

② Undated Memo for Chief / WH

Subject: Request for Letter of Commendation for Conte.

Role played by Conte in Dom. Rep. in helping & living about resignation of General Imbert was highly effective.

③ Teletype 28 Dec. 1967 to Chief Station / SMWAVE from Chief / WH.

Conte says he was notified 30 Dec. his broadcasts would be terminated.

HH

Vol. VI

0003460

Deletions - sealed envelopes.

① FBI Cable 23 Aug 1974: Subj: Luis Ernesto

Conte Aguero: Alleged Threat Against the President.

② Diplomatic passport - Luis Conte Aguero.

① Cable 19 April 1969 IN 39915

Director

TYPIC - AMSTAY

Conte amicably terminated 17 April 1969

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Conte Agüero

② 12 Feb - 1975

Subject: Whereabouts & Current Activities of Luis Conte Agüero
Has been a car salesman for Abraham Agency
in Miami. Writes occasionally for "Diario
de las Americas"

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8/4/78 - Continued

Additional files -

DCD - 2 files

Loose documents - 1 file

CI/OA - 1 file

DCD - No notes. 1 document 7 Feb 77

indicating Bernard Barker's attorney wished
to question Conte (among others) to establish
their relationship to CIA in 1960's.

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DCD -

② 25 April 1963 Memo to Chief / Contact Div.
from: Chief, Miami Field Office

Cubans, because of the sorry spectacle of the
CRC, feel they must reorganize & avoid getting
involved in matters conflicting with U.S. policy.
Dr. Ricardo Rafael Sardenas and Juan Amador Rodriguez
wish to discuss new organization with
John Crummen. Said following individuals
have indicated a desire to cooperate in
effort to unite Cubans in exile.

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Conte Aguerre

Antonio Varona	Pascasio Lemerme
Dr. Julio Garceran	Orlando Cuervo Galano
Dr. Carlos Prio	Jose Ignacio Rasco
Dr. Carlos Marquez Sterling	Mario Cobas Reyes
Carlos Devia	Hermenio Portell Vila
Jose Ignacio Rivero	Justavo Cuervo Reubio
Jose Alvarez Diaz	Lomberto Diaz
Paul Menocal	Santiago Alvarez
Quiriano Sanchez Orango	Ruben de Leon
Luis Conte Aguerre	General Generoso Campos Marquetti
Manuel Artime	Jacundo Bonares
Eusebio Mijal	

Dr. Prio stated they wished to include Felipe Pozo, Raul Lopez Mezquet, Raul Chulas & even controversial Manolo Bay as this will increase the chances of defection by members of the Cuban Armed Forces.

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Loose documents

Third Agency deletions - 2 sealed envelopes

① FBI 14 Dec 1961 # 105-1998 (Miami)

Subject: Cuban Intelligence Activities in the U.S.

② FBI 4 Jan. 1956 (New York)

Subj: Fidel Alejandro Castro Ruz

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③ FBI 13 Feb 1960 - # 105-2053 (Miami)

Subj: Frente Anti-Comunista Cristiano (FAC).

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① Classified Message. 18 March 1961

To: Bell From: [Montevideo] IN 3998

Conte Aguero speaks to rally in Montevideo. He is considered best Cuban exile to come to Montevideo so far. Showed extraordinary courage in facing hostile crowd 16 March & message had terrific impact on Uruguayan population due to his eloquence & excellent press.

ff

C1/OA - # [C-278130] Luis Ernesto Conte Aguero

Third agency - one sealed envelope - Quotations from FBI reports in 201 files and

polygraph report - Office of Security. 1968 - ~~present~~
2 Dec 1975

~~Letter~~ memo
in unsealed envelope dtd 16 Dec 1975

For: C/O PS/OSG/OC

Reference
Subject: Request for [POA] dated 28 Oct 1975

Subject: Luis Conte Aguero

Gives background info on Conte. No indication in file if he was [reactivated]. Mentions threat to President 23 Aug 1974.

Signed Edward Jones. Dep Dir Security

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